

Sam Stubbs' Story

OUT OF HOME

Sam Stubbs - Moving out of Home

Sam's journey towards moving out of home began in August 2022 at Down Syndrome NSW's empowering Housing Conference. Surrounded by support and guidance, Sam left with a newfound determination to venture out on his own, away from the easy comforts of home and the watchful eyes of his parents.

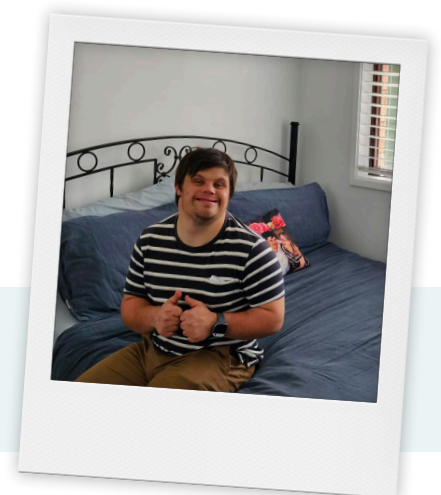
With unwavering encouragement from his family and the invaluable resources provided by Down Syndrome NSW, Sam embarked on a mission to find his own place. After careful planning and scouting, they discovered a perfect home just a stone's throw away, where Sam could spread his wings while still being within reach of his loved ones.

Following the Supportive Housemate model, two flatmates were found, and Sam transitioned seamlessly into his new abode at the age of 24, a milestone celebrated with pride by his family. The sense of achievement was palpable as Sam embraced this new chapter of his life with confidence and grace.

Six months later, with Sam settled comfortably into his routine, his parents embarked on a well-deserved holiday, reassured by the robust network of support they had established. Through meticulous planning and the assistance of dedicated caregivers, they could finally enjoy a vacation, knowing Sam had a great support network around him.

Ongoing monthly house meetings have been a cornerstone of their arrangement, providing a platform for open communication and problem-solving. With Sam at the centre of discussions, along with his supportive flatmates, family, and caregivers, they tackled challenges head-on, ensuring a harmonious living environment for all.

Reflecting on their journey, Sam's family shared invaluable advice gleaned from their experience. They emphasized the importance of building a strong support team, reaching out for assistance, and fostering reciprocal relationships with his flatmates, neighbours and friends. Practical tips, such as organizing household services and maximizing available funding, underscored their commitment to Sam's well-being.



>>> Sam himself offered simple yet profound advice: "Just do it. You will love it!" His unwavering optimism and courage served as inspiration for others considering this important rite of passage.



In conclusion, Sam's journey towards independence was made possible through the unwavering support of Down Syndrome NSW and the collective efforts of his loving family and community. Their story stands as a testament to the transformative power of empowerment and inclusivity, leaving an indelible mark on all who have had the privilege to witness.

